

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-32 (Cancelled)

Claim 33 (New) A method of preparing a coated article, comprising the steps of :

 furnishing an article substrate comprising Rene N5 having a nominal composition by weight of about 7.5% cobalt, about 7% chromium about 6.2% aluminum, about 6.5% tantalum, about 5% tungsten, about 1.5% molybdenum, about 3% rhenium and the balance nickel and characterized by a free sulfur content in the range of about 0.2 parts per million by weight and less than about 0.5 parts per million by weight and a yttrium content in the range of about 10 parts per million by weight to about 200 parts per million by weight;

 forming a protective layer at a surface of the article substrate, the protective layer comprising a platinum aluminide diffusion coating formed by first depositing a sublayer of platinum on the surface, followed by a sublayer of aluminum over the sublayer of platinum and raising the temperature of the deposited sublayers sufficiently to interdiffuse the aluminum and the platinum, thereby forming a platinum-aluminum layer.;